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FIFTH REPORT

OF THE

VISITORS OF MAYNOOTH COLLEGE

1850

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.

TO THE QUEEN'S MOST EXCELLENT MAJESTY

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR MAJESTY,

We, the undersigned Visitors of the College of Maynooth, in pursuance of the provisions of the Act passed in the session held in the eighth and ninth years of the reign of Queen Victoria entitled 'An Act to amend two Acts passed in Ireland, for the better Education of Persons professing the Roman Catholic Religion" &c., and also "An Act passed in the Parliament of the United Kingdom, to amend the said two Acts, held on the 12th day of December 1850, a Visitation of said College

We having assembled in the College at the appointed hour, and having arranged the order of the Visitation, proceeded to inspect the halls, the refectory, the students rooms, and the new buildings Having finished the inspection, we reassembled in the reception room of the College, and conferring together reported that the new buildings are now completed; that the students' rooms will be fit for their reception next Easter, but that the kitchen, the halls, the library and refectory, cannot be available for their respective purposes until the necessary fixtures and furniture shall be provided, and even as regards the students rooms, the total want of any provision for heating the building, will render it undesirable that they shall be inhabited during the winter season

We then proceeded to the Great Hall of the College, where the Superiors, Professors, and students were assembled

The names of the Superiors, Professors and students were called over by the Dean, 17 Superiors and Professors answered to their names The Reverend M Gaffney D D, senior Dean, and the Reverend N Callan D D Professor of Natural Philosophy, were absent by permission of the Board for the recovery of their health 500 students were found to be in attendance in the College, 11 absent from sickness

His Grace, on the part of the Visitors, asked the President, if he had any complaint or any statement to make, that called for the interference of the Visitors

The President replied that he had no complaint to make, nor was he aware of any matter which required the interference of the Visitors Since the period of the last Visitation there had been but little occasion for the exercise, even of the coercive authority vested in the domestic superiors During the present academe year, he did not know that any of the statutes were violated, or any duties of importance neglected The students, he was happy to say, have applied themselves to their respective studies with assiduity and success; their moral conduct has been exemplary and religious; the College discipline was well observed, and in consequence, order, tranquility, and good feeling have prevailed throughout the community In a word he knew of nothing of which he required to complain, there was much, indeed, that afforded him great satisfaction

His Grace made a similar inquiry of the other Superiors and of the Professors, and finally of the students who made no complaint.

His Grace then announced, that if any cause of complaint should arise in the College whether it affected the Superiors, Professors, or students the Visitors would receive and attend to any such complaint authenticated by the signature of the complainant, and forwarded to any of the Visitors

His Grace inquired if the oath of allegiance was taken by all the students

The President said in reply that the oath of allegiance had been taken as usual by every student, on the first opportunity that occurred after the opening of the academic year, and the general matriculation. It was taken at the Quarter Sessions Court last January, by those students who had entered the College during the preceding months. Those who have been since matriculated, or who may have been prevented by sickness from going out to the Court, will take the oath at Quarter Sessions to be held next month

His Grace desired to know, for the information of the Visitors, if there was any change in the number and respective duties of the Superiors and Professors of the College or any alteration in the entrance and College course of studies since the last Visitation

The President replied that there has been no change in the number and respective duties of the Superiors and Professors. The Reverend [redacted] Neville however, has since the last Visitation been appointed Professor of Logics, Metaphysics and Ethics, that chair having become vacant by the death of the respected former Professor the Reverend T. Behan

No change has been made since the last Visitation, either in the course of studies taught in the College or in the amount of classical and other learning required for admission into the lower classes of studies.

No candidate can be admitted into the establishment who does not answer satisfactorily in the Greek and Latin authors, and in the other matters set down in the entrance course, viz:—

For admission to the second class of Humanity —

Latin.

Cæsar's Commentaries, 1st and 2nd books De Bello Gallico
Virgil's Eclogues, 1st, 2nd, 3rd, and 4th books of the Æneid
Horace's Epistles Sallust
Cicero's Four Orations against Cataline

Greek

Greek Grammar Gospel of St John
Lucian's Dialogues, 1st book, Murphy's or Walker's
Xenophon's Cyropedia, 1st, 2nd, and 3rd books.

Also in Murray's Abridgment of the English Grammar, a short system of Geography, and the elements of Arithmetic

For admission to the 1st class of Humanity and Rhetoric, besides the foregoing authors —

Latin

Cicero's Orations on the Manilian law, for Achias, Milo, Marcellus, and Ligarius.
Horace's Odes and Satires.
Livy 1st 2nd, and 3rd books
Virgil 5th, 6th 7th and 8th books of the Æneid
Juvenal, 1st, 3rd, 4th, and 10th Satires

Greek

Enchiridion of Epictetus
Xenophon's Anabasis 1st and 2nd books
Homer's Iliad, 1st, 2nd 3rd and 4th books

Also in English and Irish history and in either six books of Euclid, or the whole of Darre's Geometry

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For admission to Logics, besides the authors contained in the foregoing lists —

Latin.

Tacitus, 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th and 5th books of the Annals
Livy, 4th and 5th books.
Cicero's Offices
Virgil's Georgics, and four last books of the Æneid
Horace's Art of Poetry

Greek.

Homer's Iliad, 5th, 6th, 7th, and 8th books
Demosthenes' Philippics, and de Corona.
Longinus de Sublimi.

His Grace then inquired if the dietary of the College underwent any change since the last Visitation. Dietary the same as at the last Visitation

His Grace made inquiries as to the health of the community

The President reported that the health of the community was very good none but ordinary cases of sickness, and few of them, occurred. Even when the cholera raged in the town of Maynooth there was not a single case of it in the College but one with which the patient was afflicted on his entering the College

His Grace then desired to know if there was any improvement in the public halls of the College in the lodging of the students for their better accommodation since the last Visitation, and how far the new buildings are now found available for these purposes

The President informed his Grace and the other Visitors that some of the halls have been improved. The floors have been altered for the better by substituting boards for flags on all the halls but three, and they are all wainscoted. A very large amount of repairs was required for putting the largest and oldest wing of the College into better repair during the summer of 1849. But except such improvements as painting and renewing the plastering of very many of the larger rooms and other such repairs, there has been little improvement since the last Visitation, the number of students is undiminished, and the number of rooms for their accommodation is not increased

Present Lodging Accommodation for the Students

261	rooms with	1	bed each
35	,,	2	,,
40	,,	3	,,
8	,,	4	,,
2	,,	5	,,
3	,,	6	,,

The new buildings comprise 215 rooms for students, together with a library, seven lecture halls, a kitchen refectory and other accommodation, but these remain unprovided with the most indispensable fixtures and furniture, the library without shelves, the halls without benches, the kitchen without grates or apparatus, the refectory without tables, &c. The students' rooms can be rendered available during the drier and warmer weather, but the Visitors can themselves judge whether it be safe or desirable to inhabit them during the winter months, while these rooms and the whole building are unprovided with fires or any system of heating

We, after having made these inquiries reassembled in the reception-room of the College, and concluded the Visitation by taking the opinion of the Visitors present, on the general state of the establishment, and by authenticating the Minutes of the Visitation for the usual Report to Your Majesty and to Parliament, with the signature of his Grace the Duke of Leinster

We consider the result of the Visitation to be most satisfactory

(Signed) LEINSTER.
+ D. MURRAY
FINGALL
Wm. M. SOMERVILLE

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Mr. Spooner

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